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Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An optical interleaver comprising:

a first collimating lens for collimating an input optical signal into collimated beams, the input optical signal including more than one wavelength, and a second collimating lens for focusing said collimated parallel beams into an output optical fiber; and

a phase delay generating means for generating substantially one phase-delay difference between portions of said collimated parallel beams, wherein the phase delay difference generating means is optically coupled between said first and said second collimating lens for generating ~~a substantially periodic~~ an interference pattern when said collimated parallel beams are focused by said second collimating lens, the interference pattern resulting in a suppression of one or more wavelengths.

16. (Currently Amended) A method for configuring an optical interleaver comprising:

providing a first collimating lens for collimating an input optical signal into collimated beams, the input optical signal including more than one wavelength, and a second collimating lens for focusing said collimated parallel beams into an output optical fiber; and

positioning between the first and second collimating lens a phase difference generating means for generating a phase difference between different portions of optical beams, for generating an interference pattern resulting in a suppression of one or more wavelengths ~~that is substantially periodic~~, for selecting a plurality of single wavelength signals in the optical beams, and where said collimated parallel beams are fused by said second collimating lens.